In the guise of requesting permission to exceed the twenty page limit for an opposition brief – even though their brief was *less than* twenty pages – Plaintiffs have suggested that Defendants violated L.R. 7.1(g) because Defendants' moving memoranda (which was less than twenty pages), when combined with their supporting declarations, exceeded twenty pages.

Defendants and their counsel have never heard that L.R. 7.1(g) is subject to such an interpretation. It states: "Each party may submit briefs or memoranda in support of or in opposition to any pending motion which shall not exceed a total of twenty (20) pages in length without leave of Court to file additional pages. The moving party may submit a reply brief or memoranda not in excess of ten (10) pages without leave of court. All briefs and memoranda in excess of fifteen (15) pages shall contain a table of authorities cited."

Defendants had understood this rule only to apply to the memoranda or brief, not supporting materials such as declarations, exhibits, or appendices. Plaintiffs evidently do not. Their interpretation would require the filing of motions to exceed page limits as to many substantive filings (such as summary judgment motions) that require supporting declarations. This strikes Defendants as unfortunate as it would require a much greater incident of requests to exceed page limits. Of course, if this is the correct interpretation of the Rule, Defendants will abide by it. But in this context, where Plaintiffs have responded to their recent admonishment for violating the Local Rules by the Court (see Docket No. 215) by making numerous (incorrect) accusations of Local Rule violations against Defendants, Defendants would ask that Plaintiffs' motion to exceed the page limit otherwise be denied as unnecessary and contrary to those Local Rules.

Respectfully submitted this 7th day of May, 2007.

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By:

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